

b.) Amendments to the Specification.

Please amend page 1, paragraph 1 of the specification as follows:

Reference to Related Applications

This application claims priority to U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/263,761 entitled “Rapid Method for Bacterial Typing,” filed January 25, 2001, and is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 10/020,923 entitled “Methods for the Rapid Detection of Actively Respiring Microorganisms,” filed December 19, 2001, which is a Divisional Application of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/148,491 of the same title filed September 4, 1998, which issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,344,332 on February 5, 2002, and claims priority to U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/057,657 filed September 5, 1997, all of which are is entirely incorporated herein by reference.